

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 25, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael Flanagan, Chairman

SUBJECT: Approval of Period of Public Comment for Next Generation Science

Standards (NGSS)

At the February 12, 2013, State Board of Education (SBE) meeting, the SBE was updated on the NGSS development process including the second draft of the standards. The final version of the NGSS is now available.

As a lead state partner in NGSS development, Michigan has played an active role throughout the NGSS review and revision process. The standards have undergone numerous state reviews, as well as two public comment periods (in May 2012 and January 2013). The NGSS have been revised based on feedback from the public, lead states, and other critical stakeholder reviews. The final version of the NGSS is embargoed until April 8, 2013, and can then be accessed at http://www.nextgenscience.org/.

The NGSS represent a critical step in state efforts to prepare career- and collegeready students. They complement the Common Core State Standards and lay out a plan for promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics learning and science literacy in all Michigan schools.

The NGSS will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval at the May 14, 2013 meeting.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve release of the NGSS for public comment as presented in the Superintendent's memorandum dated March 25, 2013.

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